

FOR FILE (JIOA) -

A meeting was held at my suggestion in Dr. Lyon's office at 3 o'clock this afternoon to discuss the German scientists question. There were present Messrs. Lyon (CON), Plinn (CON), Cummings (FC), Alexander (VD), Knight (VD), and Chappell (SPD) representing Clattenburg (SPD). Bradford (FC) arrived after the meeting was over.

I said that I had requested a meeting in order to work out some issues of policy and coordination. I explained the nature of the Presidential Directive and the need for precision. I explained, also, the desirability of the Military Custody Program as a means of effecting timely removal of Germans without a violation of our State Department responsibilities, and I raised some of the legal doubts about the Custody Program.

After considerable discussion, it was agreed by all present that uniform requirements substantially those contained in our memo of basic requirements should be applied to all German scientists whether coming under sponsorship or on their own application and whether for temporary immigration or for visitors' visas.

On the military custody question, legal doubts were expressed with respect to the contingency of the declaration of peace. Alexander referred to a rumor that on VJ Day the President would proclaim the end of the war. Some doubt was expressed to possible complications if wives and children were brought in on a custody basis, and children subsequently born claim American citizenship. I pointed out that this was a problem that the Department of Justice would be primarily concerned with.

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